MARVEL COMICS
THE CHILD WITHIN: PART 3 OF 6
the SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN
YEAH, WE NEVER BELIEVED THE GREEN GOBLIN WAS A GOOD GUY, EITHER!!
CALL MY KILLER...
...MY FRIEND!
$1.00 US
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180
SEPT
UK 65p
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50 YEARS OF CAPTAIN AMERICA
1941 – 1991
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BITTEN BY A RADIOACTIVE SPIDER, STUDENT PETER PARKER GAINED THE PROPORTIONATE STRENGTH AND AGILITY OF AN ARACHNID! ARMED WITH HIS WONDROUS WEB-SHOOTERS, THE RELUCTANT SUPER HERO STRUGGLES WITH SINISTER SUPER-VILLAINS, MAKING ENDS MEET, AND MAINTAINING SOME SEMBLANCE OF A NORMAL LIFE!

Stan Lee PRESENTS: THE SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN!™

THEN WHAT HAPPENED, EDWARD?
I FELL ASLEEP. IT'S... IT'S HARD FOR ME T'FALL A-SLEEP SOMETIMES.
WHY?
I... I GUESS I'M AFRAID.
OF WHAT?
WHEN I FALL ASLEEP... IT HAPPENS.
WHAT HAPPENS?
THE BAD THING.
TELL ME ABOUT THE BAD THING.
I... I CAN'T... IT'S SCARY.
THERE'S NOTHING TO BE AFRAID OF.

EDWARD'S NOT GOING TO HURT ME.
ARE YOU, EDWARD?
I TOLD YOU, I'M NOT--
EDWARD... I'M YOUR DOCTOR. I'M YOUR FRIEND. TRUST ME.
YOU DON'T NEED VERMIN ANYMORE.
I'LL PROTECT YOU. I'LL TAKE CARE OF YOU.
BUT--
-- I'M SO AFRAID.
I KNOW, EDWARD.
I KNOW.

THE SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN ™ Vol. 1, No. 180, September, 1991. (ISSN # 0898-1833) Published by MARVEL COMICS. Terry Stewart, President. Stan Lee, Publisher. Michael Hobson, Group Vice President, Publishing. OFFICE OF PUBLICATION: 387 PARK AVENUE SOUTH, NEW YORK, N.Y. 10016. **SECOND CLASS POSTAGE PAID AT NEW YORK, NY AND AT ADDITIONAL MAILING OFFICES.** Published monthly. Copyright © 1991 by Marvel Entertainment Group, Inc. All rights reserved. Price $1.00 per copy in the U.S. and $1.25 in Canada. Subscription rate for 12 issues: $12.00 U.S.; $17.00 Canada; and $24.00 foreign. GST # R127032852. No similarity between any of the names, characters, persons, and or institutions in this magazine with those of any living or dead person or institution is intended, and any such similarity which may exist is purely coincidental. This periodical may not be sold except by authorized dealers and is sold subject to the condition that it shall not be sold or distributed with any part of its cover or markings removed, nor in a mutilated condition. THE SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN (including all prominent characters featured in this issue and the distinctive likenesses thereof) is a trademark of MARVEL ENTERTAINMENT GROUP, INC. **POSTMASTER: SEND ADDRESS CHANGES TO SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN, c/o MARVEL COMICS, 9TH FLOOR, 387 PARK AVENUE SOUTH, NEW YORK, N.Y. 10016. Printed in the U.S.A.**

DOCTOR--
MOMMY--
--HELP ME.

"LOOK AT ME: I WAS PRETTY CUTE. LITTLE NORMAN LOOKED JUST LIKE ME WHEN HE WAS BORN.
"AND MOTHER... SHE WAS SO BEAUTIFUL.
"IT'S AMAZING TO THINK THAT WE WERE ONCE A NORMAL HAPPY FAMILY."
"NORMAL? THE OSBORNS? GIMME A BREAK, HARRY."
"YOU KEEP OUT OF THIS!"
"WHY DON'T YOU CLOSE THE BOOK, SON? DREDGING UP THE PAST JUST BRINGS BACK--
"--UNPLEASANT MEMORIES."
"YOU, TOO?! CAN'T I LOOK AT THESE PICTURES IN PEACE?"
"PEACE? YOU SEE ANY PEACE IN THOSE PICTURES, HAR? I JUST SEE A MISERABLE LITTLE BOY AND HIS ANGRY, ABUSIVE FATHER--"
"YOU DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT. HE WAS A GOOD FATHER. HE LOVED MOTHER. HE LOVED ME. HE--"
"LOVE? ALL THAT MONSTER KNEW HOW TO DO WAS DESTROY LOVE! HE--"
"NO! DON'T SAY IT! DON'T SAY IT!"
"OH, STOP WHINING AND WHIMPERING, HARRY."
"WHY WON'T YOU TWO LET ME ENJOY MY LIFE? WHY WON'T YOU JUST--"

J.M. DEMATTEIS WRITER • SAL BUSCEMA ARTIST • RICK PARKER LETTERER • BOB SHAREN COLORIST • DANNY FINGEROTH EDITOR • TOM DEFALCO EDITOR IN CHIEF

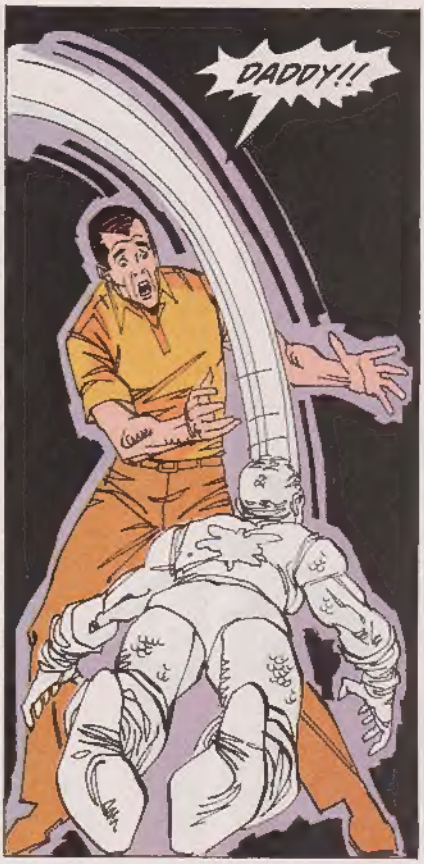
YOU USED TO DO THE SAME THING WHEN YOU WERE A KID: EVERY TIME I'D TRY TO TALK SOME SENSE INTO YOU, YOU'D GO RUNNING INTO YOUR ROOM, SNIVELLING--
--BEGGING ME TO LEAVE YOU ALONE!
WELL, I'M NOT LEAVING YOU ALONE, HARRY! I'M GOING TO KEEP AT YOU UNTIL YOU FINALLY BECOME A MAN!
B-BUT, DAD--Y-YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND. WHEN I WAS LITTLE, IT WAS ALWAYS SO HARD TO TALK TO YOU. I--
OH, FOR CRYIN' OUT LOUD, HAR-- YOU'RE NOT A LITTLE BOY ANY MORE! STAND UP TO HIM! TELL HIM WHAT YOU REALLY THINK OF HIM!
PAY HIM BACK FOR ALL THE ROTTEN THINGS HE DID TO YOU!
YOU KEEP OUT OF THIS, PETER!
YOU'RE NOTHING BUT A TROUBLEMAKER!
EVERY TIME DAD AND I FINALLY GET TO UNDERSTAND EACH OTHER ---
---EVERY TIME WE GET CLOSE--
---YOU START FILLING MY HEAD WITH ALL YOUR STINKING LIES!
THAT'S MY BOY! LET 'IM HAVE IT, HARRY! FINISH WHAT I STARTED!
POUND THAT NO GOOD SCUM THROUGH THE FLOOR!
YEAH... TH-THAT'S WHAT YOU ARE! SCUM! NO GOOD, LYING--
--SCUM!

GO AHEAD, HAR. YOU THINK BEATING UP ON ME IS GONNA CHANGE WHAT HE WAS?
SHUT UP!
NORMAN OSBORN WAS A COLD AND HEARTLESS MAN.
SHUT UP!
HE WAS A CRIMINAL. A MURDERER!
HE KILLED GWEN, HARRY!
SHUT--
HE-HE'S RIGHT, DADDY. PETER... LOVED GWEN. I LOVED GWEN / SHE WAS A GOOD PERSON. SHE NEVER HURT ANYBODY--
--AND YOU KILLED HER, DADDY!
WHY? WHY DID YOU DO--
HE KILLED GWEN.
--THAAAAKK!
YOU
UNGRATEFUL
LITTLE
BRAT!

YOU THINK IT WAS EASY AFTER YOUR MOTHER DIED? RUNNING A BUSINESS... LOOKING AFTER YOU? WELL, IT WASN'T!
I BROKE MY BACK MY WHOLE LIFE TO GIVE YOU A GOOD HOME... A GOOD EDUCATION... EVERYTHING MONEY COULD BUY! I BROKE MY BACK FOR YOU, HARRY OSBORN--
--AND YOU REPAY ME BY SIDING WITH HIM?!

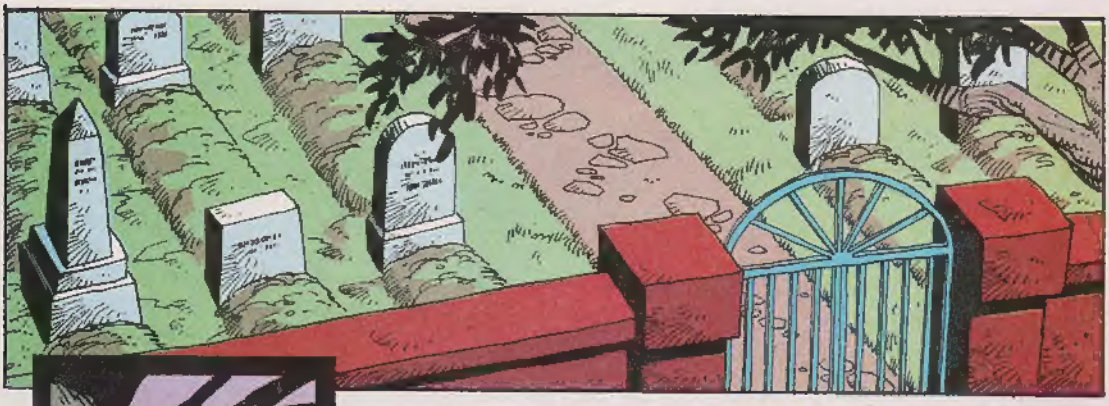
SIDING WITH
THE MAN WHO
KILLED

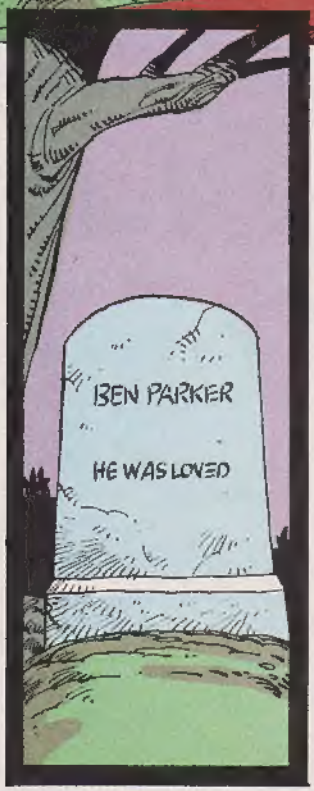
ME...?


DADDY!!

HE WAS RIGHT ABOUT ONE THING, HARRY--
--YOU REALLY ARE A WHINER.

Family Photos
Family Photos
Family Photos
Family Photos
Family Photos




BEN PARKER
HE WAS LOVED

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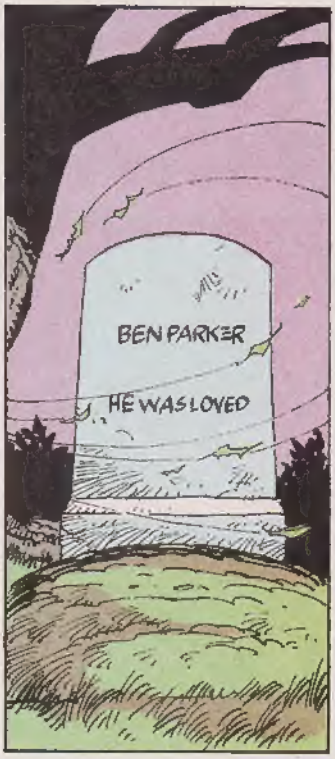
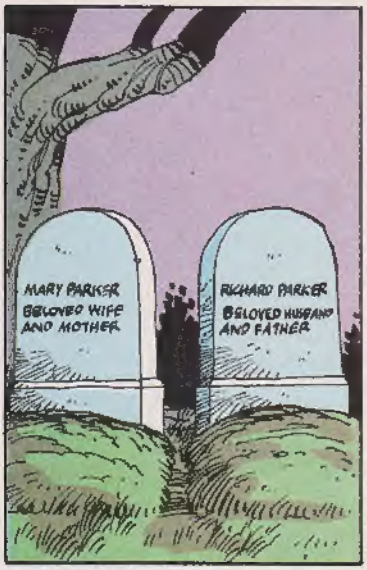
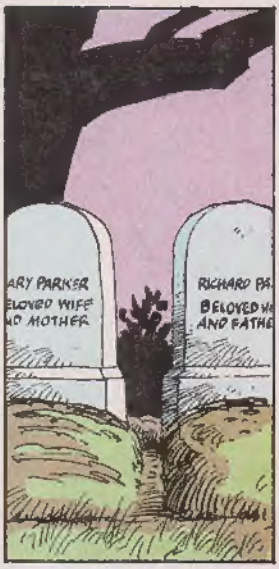
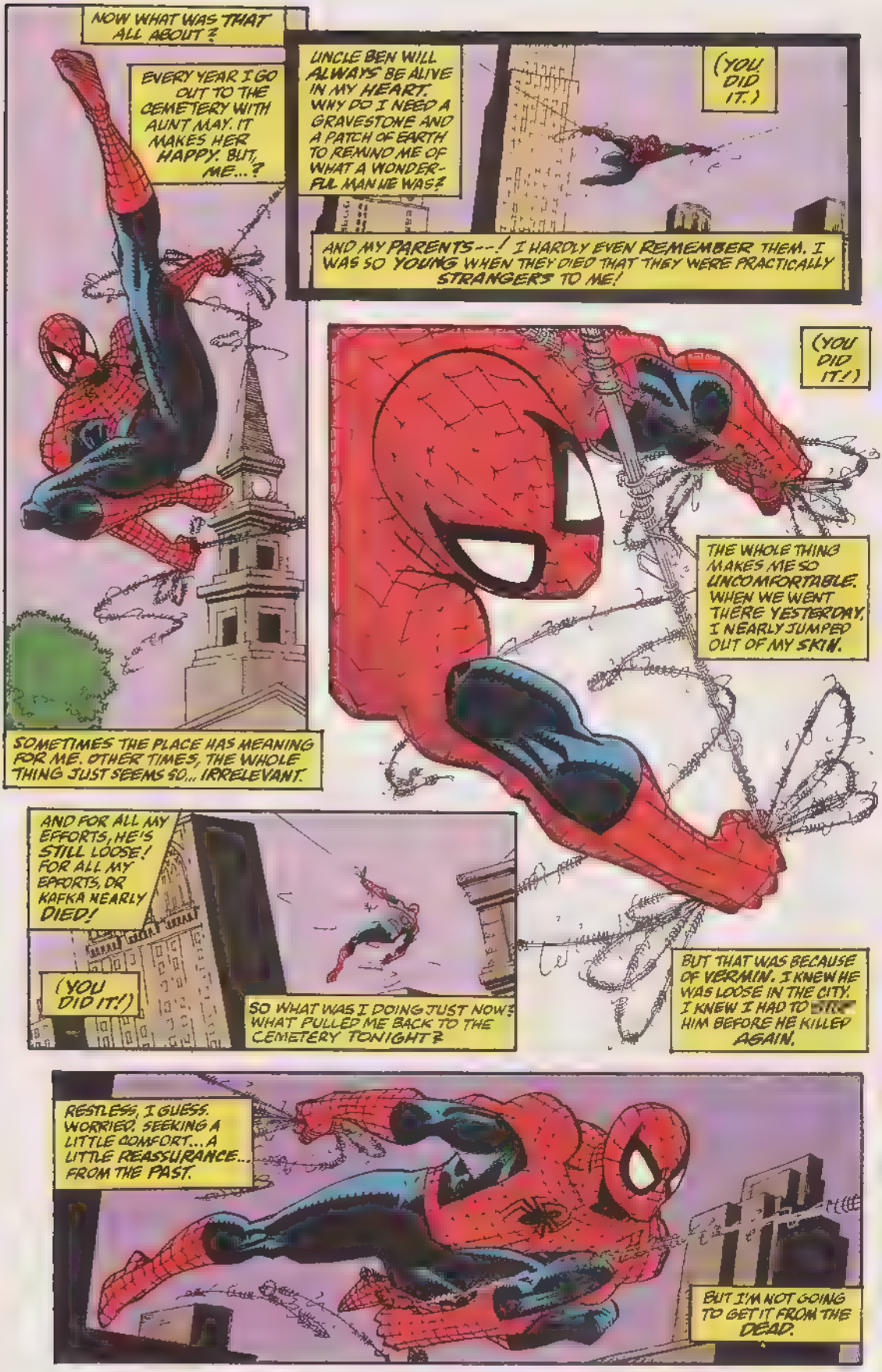
HE WAS LOVED


BEN PARKER
HE WAS LOVED


MARY PARKER
BELOVED WIFE
AND MOTHER
RICHARD PARKER
BELOVED HUSBAND
AND FATHER

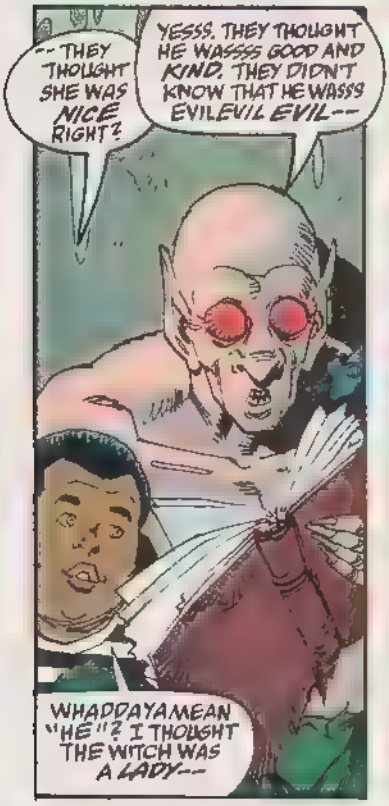
RICHARD PARKER
BELOVED HUSBAND
AND FATHER

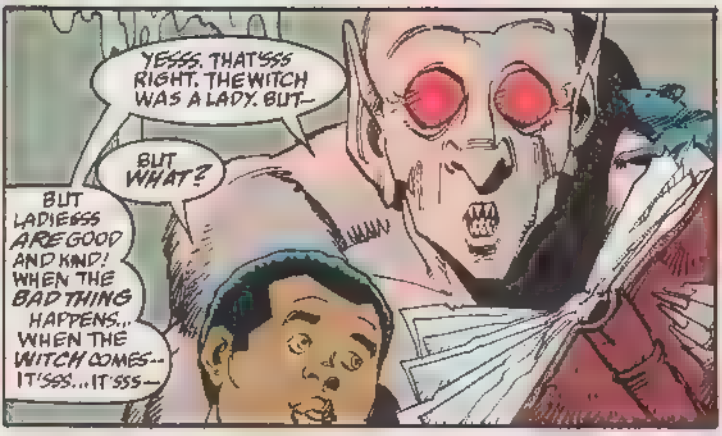

RICHARD PA
AND FATHE

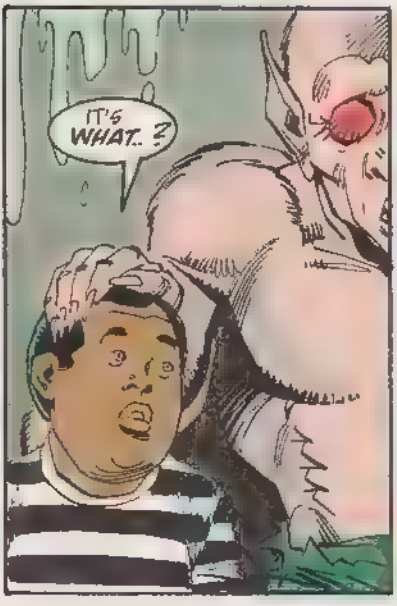

NOW WHAT WAS THAT ALL ABOUT?
EVERY YEAR I GO OUT TO THE CEMETERY WITH AUNT MAY. IT MAKES HER HAPPY. BUT, ME...?
SOMETIMES THE PLACE HAS MEANING FOR ME. OTHER TIMES, THE WHOLE THING JUST SEEMS SO... IRRELEVANT.
UNCLE BEN WILL ALWAYS BE ALIVE IN MY HEART. WHY DO I NEED A GRAVESTONE AND A PATCH OF EARTH TO REMIND ME OF WHAT A WONDERFUL MAN HE WAS?
(YOU DID IT.)
AND MY PARENTS---! I HARDLY EVEN REMEMBER THEM. I WAS SO YOUNG WHEN THEY DIED THAT THEY WERE PRACTICALLY STRANGERS TO ME!
(YOU DID IT!)
THE WHOLE THING MAKES ME SO UNCOMFORTABLE. WHEN WE WENT THERE YESTERDAY, I NEARLY JUMPED OUT OF MY SKIN.
AND FOR ALL MY EFFORTS, HE'S STILL LOOSE! FOR ALL MY EFFORTS, DR KAFKA NEARLY DIED!
(YOU DID IT!)
SO WHAT WAS I DOING JUST NOW? WHAT PULLED ME BACK TO THE CEMETERY TONIGHT?
BUT THAT WAS BECAUSE OF VERMIN. I KNEW HE WAS LOOSE IN THE CITY. I KNEW I HAD TO [redacted] HIM BEFORE HE KILLED AGAIN.
RESTLESS, I GUESS. WORRIED. SEEKING A LITTLE COMFORT... A LITTLE REASSURANCE... FROM THE PAST.
BUT I'M NOT GOING TO GET IT FROM THE DEAD.

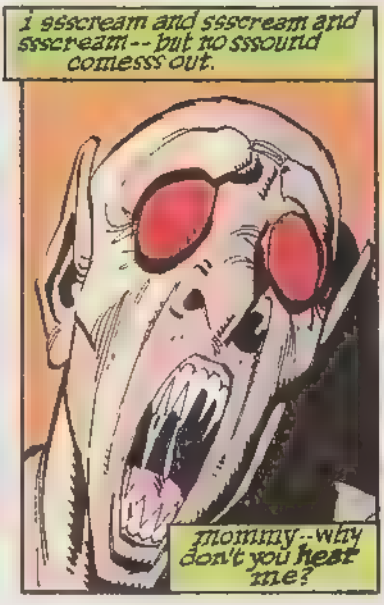
GOD BLESS YOU, AUNT MAY...
...I DON'T KNOW WHAT I'D DO WITHOUT YOU.

... AND THEN.. THEN THE TWO CHILDREN SSSAT DOWN AT THE TABLE WITH THE WITCH...
BUT THEY DIDN'T KNOW SHE WAS A WITCH, RIGHT?
NO, THEY DIDN'T KNOW. THEY... THEY TRUSSSTED THE WITCH. THEY THOUGHT--


-- THEY THOUGHT SHE WAS NICE RIGHT?
YESSS. THEY THOUGHT HE WASSSS GOOD AND KIND. THEY DIDN'T KNOW THAT HE WASSS EVILEVIL EVIL--
WHADDAYAMEAN "HE"? I THOUGHT THE WITCH WAS A LADY--

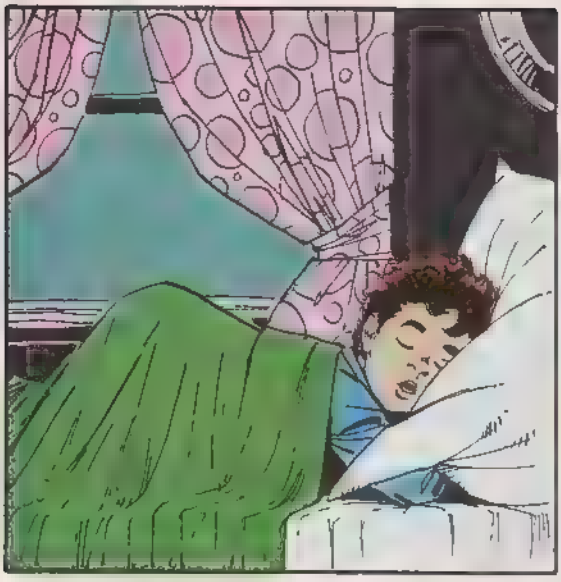
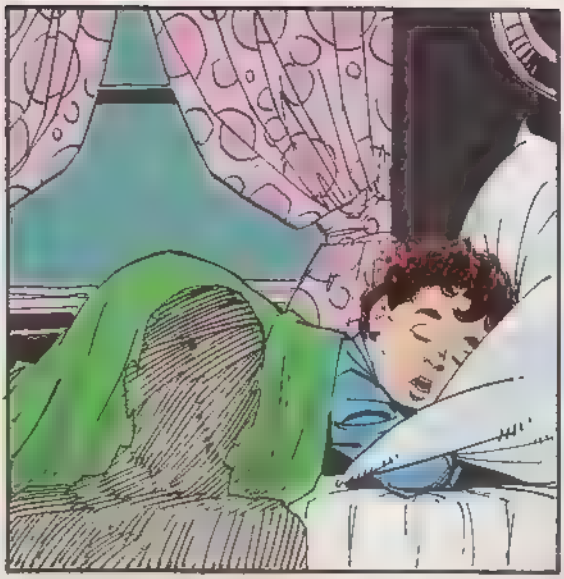
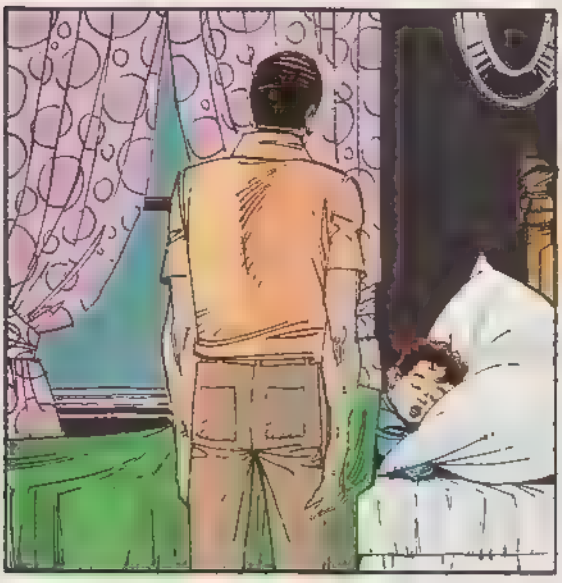

YESSS. THAT'SSS RIGHT. THE WITCH WAS A LADY. BUT--
BUT WHAT?
BUT LADIESSS ARE GOOD AND KIND! WHEN THE BAD THING HAPPENS... WHEN THE WITCH COMES-- IT'SSS... IT'SSS--

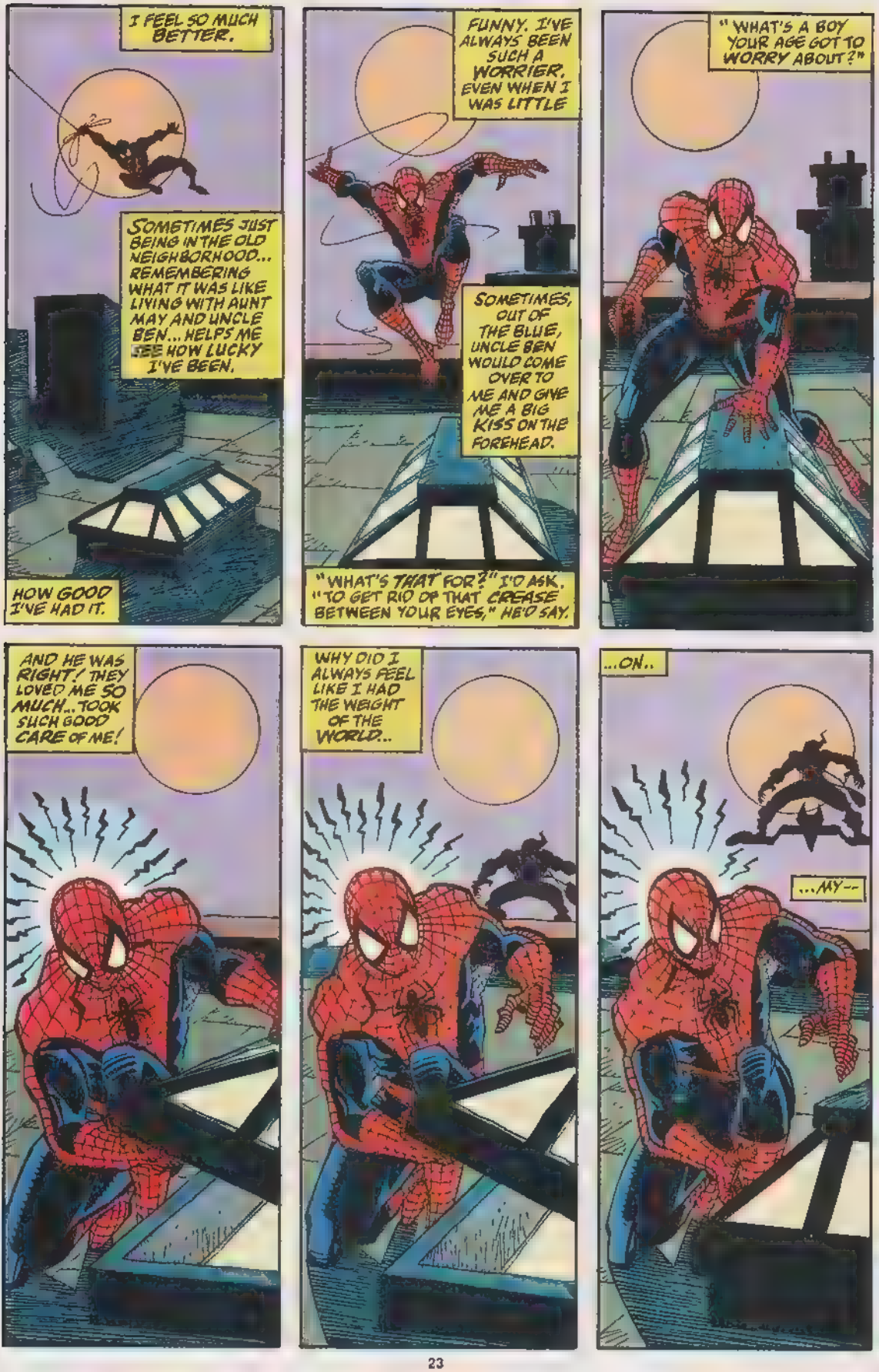

IT'S WHAT.. ?


i ssscream and ssscream and ssscream -- but no sssound comesss out.
mommy--why don't you hear me?

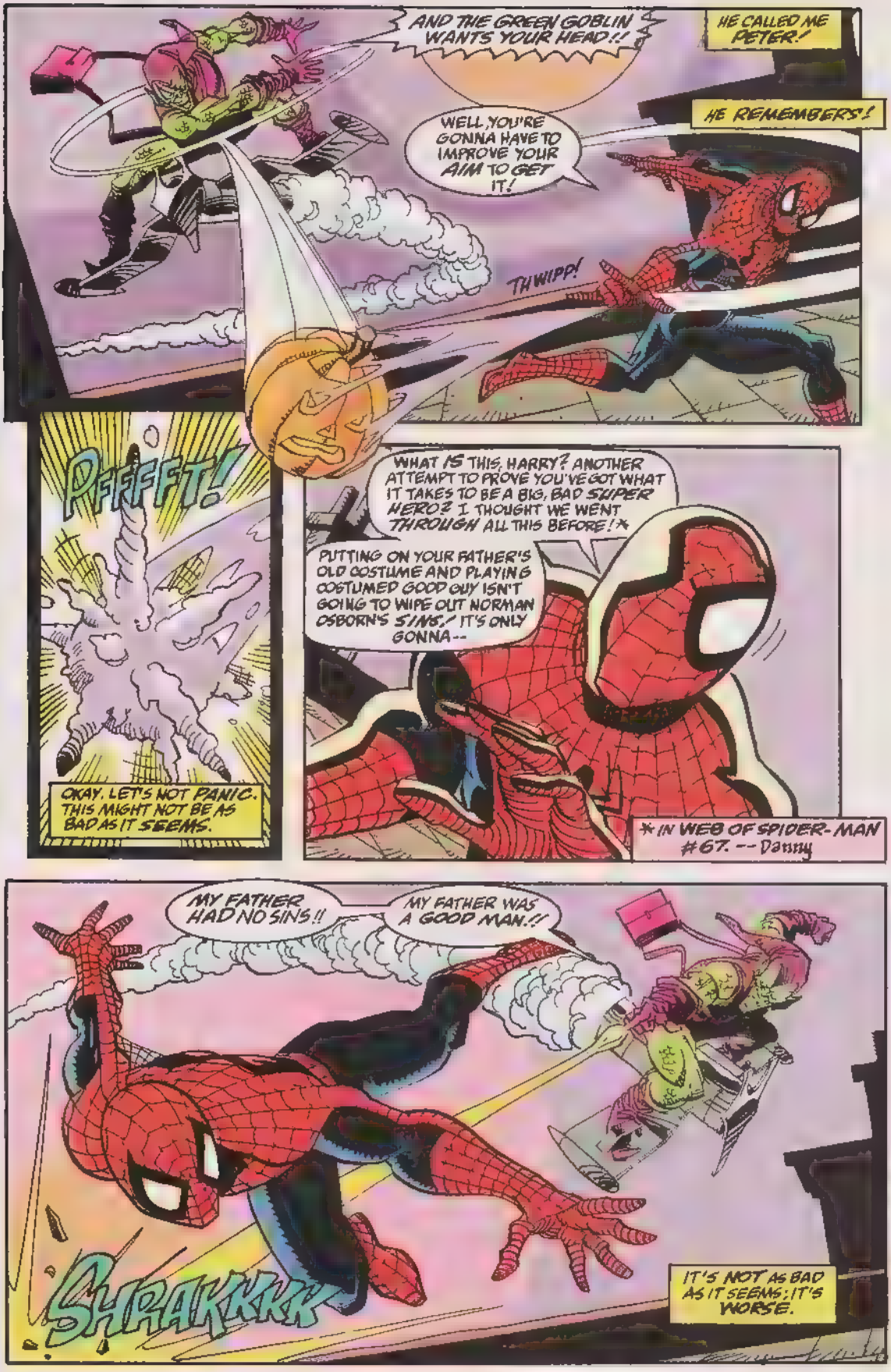
WHY DON'T YOU HEAR ME?!
I SCREAM AND SCREAM AND SCREAM AND SCREAM.
WHY DOESN'T SHE HEAR ME?
I HEAR YOU.
I HEAR YOU, EDWARD.
MOMMY...?
NO.. NOT MOMMY. IT'S DR. KAFKA.
I'M SO AFRAID. THE BAD THING.
WAS A LONG TIME AGO. IT WON'T EVER HAPPEN AGAIN.
YOU'LL PROTECT ME ?
YES.
FOR EVER AND EVER?
YES, EDWARD--
--FOR EVER AND EVER.

BUT I DIDN'T PROTECT YOU, DID I? SOMETHING WENT WRONG.
WHAT WAS IT? WHAT DROVE EDWARD AWAY--AND PULLED VERMIN BACK OUT?
DID I PUSH YOU TOO FAR, TOO FAST? I TRIED TO BE GENTLE. I DIDN'T WANT TO TAKE YOU ANYWHERE YOUR UNCONSCIOUS MIND WASN'T PREPARED TO GO.
SO WHAT WENT WRONG?
UP ON THE ROOF, THE OTHER NIGHT... YOU TURNED ON ME. IF IT WASN'T FOR SPIDER-MAN, YOU WOULD HAVE KILLED ME. YOUR RATS WOULD HAVE--
SQUEEEEE
???!!!
NO!
EASY, GIRL. IT'S NOT A RAT. JUST A MOUSE.
A FRIGHTENED LITTLE MOUSE.


I FEEL SO MUCH BETTER.
SOMETIMES JUST BEING IN THE OLD NEIGHBORHOOD... REMEMBERING WHAT IT WAS LIKE LIVING WITH AUNT MAY AND UNCLE BEN... HELPS ME SEE HOW LUCKY I'VE BEEN.
HOW GOOD I'VE HAD IT.
FUNNY. I'VE ALWAYS BEEN SUCH A WORRIER. EVEN WHEN I WAS LITTLE
SOMETIMES, OUT OF THE BLUE, UNCLE BEN WOULD COME OVER TO ME AND GIVE ME A BIG KISS ON THE FOREHEAD.
"WHAT'S THAT FOR?" I'D ASK. "TO GET RID OF THAT CREASE BETWEEN YOUR EYES," HE'D SAY.
"WHAT'S A BOY YOUR AGE GOT TO WORRY ABOUT?"
AND HE WAS RIGHT! THEY LOVED ME SO MUCH.. TOOK SUCH GOOD CARE OF ME!
WHY DID I ALWAYS FEEL LIKE I HAD THE WEIGHT OF THE WORLD..
...ON..
...MY--

HELLO... PETER.
HARRY--?
HARRY'S A FICTION. A TWISTED LITTLE LIE. MY TRUE NAME IS--
--THE GREEN GOBLIN!


AND THE GREEN GOBLIN WANTS YOUR HEAD!!
HE CALLED ME PETER!
HE REMEMBERS!
WELL, YOU'RE GONNA HAVE TO IMPROVE YOUR AIM TO GET IT!
THWIPP!
PFFFFT!
OKAY, LET'S NOT PANIC. THIS MIGHT NOT BE AS BAD AS IT SEEMS.
WHAT IS THIS, HARRY? ANOTHER ATTEMPT TO PROVE YOU'VE GOT WHAT IT TAKES TO BE A BIG, BAD SUPER HERO? I THOUGHT WE WENT THROUGH ALL THIS BEFORE!*
PUTTING ON YOUR FATHER'S OLD COSTUME AND PLAYING COSTUMED GOOD GUY ISN'T GOING TO WIPE OUT NORMAN OSBORN'S SINS!* IT'S ONLY GONNA--
*IN WEB OF SPIDER-MAN #67. -- Danny
MY FATHER HAD NO SINS!!
MY FATHER WAS A GOOD MAN!!
SHRAKKKK
IT'S NOT AS BAD AS IT SEEMS; IT'S WORSE.

BULLPEN BULLETINS

STAN'S SOAPBOX

Hi, Heroes!

It takes place the week of July Fourth! It's in San Diego! It's one of the biggest Comic Book Conventions of all! And it's not even paying us for this priceless Soapbox plug! So why am I doing it? Here's why . . .

Marvel believes in Comic Book Cons! Marvel supports Comic Book Cons! Marvel loves Comic Book Cons!

Just think! A place where all you fans can get together with other Marvel maniacs (not to mention Brand Echh bizarros) and have a ball meeting your favorite artists, writers and editors. A place where you can bid on all sorts of original artwork, attend discussion groups with the pros, snare countless autographs, snap candid photos of the celebs, and generally wallow in a welter of comic book lore!

Let's face it, a good Comic Book Con is super hero heaven—and if this hype doesn't get me a free pass to the next one, I'll return my latest no-prize for a full refund! Come to think of it, maybe I'll devote my next soapbox to expensive sports cars—hey, I'm not so dumb!

But seriously (which is a word I find hard to take seriously), if you've never attended a Comic Book Con you should make a note not to miss the next one that comes to your town. There are now so many of 'em that they seem to be proliferating like rabbits, so no matter where you live there's a good chance of finding one in your area sooner or later. And, since I attend so many Cons during the year, there's always the possibility of us running into each other—but don't let that discourage you. You can always pretend you don't know me!

So, till Jim Lee admits he's my long-lost grandfather, see ya at the Con!

Excelsior

Stan Lee

July is a mondo-hot month—but you don't need us to tell you that. Just stick your head out the window. Preferably an open one. Now, some may like it hot—Marilyn Monroe, for one, singer Robert Palmer, for another. But here at Marvel, we're trying to forget about the heat. After all, too much heat can make you perspire on your new mint Marvel comics, thus decreasing their value. And we don't want that. Instead of telling you what you already know—that we're pushin' the mercury into the red—we'd rather talk about things that are cool.

After all, a good comic should be cool and refreshing—like a gentle breeze on a warm summer's day. . .like a guitar riff you can't get out of your head. . .or like an ice cube dropped down your shirt. At least, that's the idea. We figured what better way to help you cool off than to clue you in on what we, the movers and shakers at the coolest comics company in the U.S., consider the ultimate in cool. (If the items mentioned here do not seem cool to you, you may want to redefine your abstract values.)

COOLEST ACTIVITY FOR MARRIED COUPLES: Having babies. This recreational activity seems quite popular this year, as evidenced by ultra-inker **Randy Emberlin** and his lovely wife, **Judy**, who have just had a baby boy, and PUNISHER mega-penciler **Hugh Haynes** and his lovely wife, **Judith**, who recently celebrated the arrival of a baby girl.

COOLEST NAME FOR BABY BOYS: Alex.

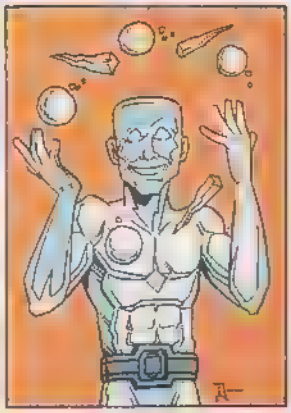
COOLEST NAME FOR BABY GIRLS: Olivia.

COOLEST BOOK: X-MEN-super-scribe **Chris Claremont**'s second novel, *Grounded*, will be out next month from Ace Books. Chris describes *Grounded* as "hi-tech sf," noting that it's a sequel to his first novel, *First Flight*. A third book in the series is planned. However, with Chris busy scripting two, count 'em, two X-MEN books every month, there's no telling when the third book in the series will be out.

COOLEST FOOD: Cherry Slurpees.

COOLEST SPORT: Wallyball. (It's like volleyball, only with no rules.)

COOLEST COMIC: **Gilbert Gottfried.** Ha! Fooled you! You thought we were talking about comic books, when actually we were talking about stand-up comics! The ultra-hilarious Gilbert, known for his hosting of the USA Cable Network's *Up All Night*, and movie roles including *Problem Child* and *Beverly Hills Cop 2*, is a big Marvel fan. He recently stopped by the Marvel offices along with his buddy, fellow stand-up comic (and ALPHA FLIGHT's new writer) **Scott Lobdell.** Gilbert and Scott are working on a story for our Dastardly Competition. Something about the adventures of a boy who could fly, or some such. Comics writing comics. . .what will they think of next?



JULY COOLOMETER

- *INFINITY GAUNTLET*
- PENN & TELLER
- BARE KNEES
- *THE ROCKETEER*
- THAI FOOD
- SUPERMODEL CLAUDIA SCHIFFER
- THE SIMPSONS
- MICHAEL JORDAN
- GEEK CHIC
- *THE INCREDIBLE HULK*
- ROLLERBLADES
- ANNE RICE'S *THE WITCHING HOUR*
- SOFTBALL
- *QUASAR*
- GEOGRAPHIC UNDESIRABILITY
- *THE FLASH* TV SHOW
- HANNIBAL LECTER
- *TEEN-AGE MUTANT NINJA TURTLES*
- *TWIN PEAKS*
- SUSHI
- BO JACKSON
- NEW KIDS ON THE BLOCK
- McLEAN BURGER
- STEVEN SEAGAL
- BELL BOTTOMS
- VOGUING
- VANILLA ICE
- PONYTAILS ON MEN
- REGIS & KATHY LEE

COOLEST ISSUE OF MARVEL AGE MAGAZINE: Issue #104, which, by a strange coincidence, is on sale this month. The issue features a cover by ultra-superstar artist **Jim Lee**, as well as an interview with The-One-Who-Is-Not-Stan's-Son. The cover story this issue? Why, none other than the all-new, all different X-MEN #1, which explodes on the world like a supernova next month, and is sure to be the best-selling comic since the dawn of the Paleolithic Era. Now, any other comic company would give you the Jim Lee interview and stop there. But not us! MARVEL AGE #104 also contains the reprint of the first Marvel mutant story ever published. It's called "The Man Who Could Fly," and it's by a couple of gents named **Stan** (I am not Jim's Dad) **Lee** and **Steve** (I Am Not Related In Any Way To Either Stan Or Jim Lee) **Ditko**. The story originally appeared in. . . AMAZING FANTASY #14! (As all true Marveloids know, that's the issue BEFORE the introduction of the AMAZING SPIDER-MAN! Stan and Steve were really on a hot streak there—oops, we promised not to mention heat.)

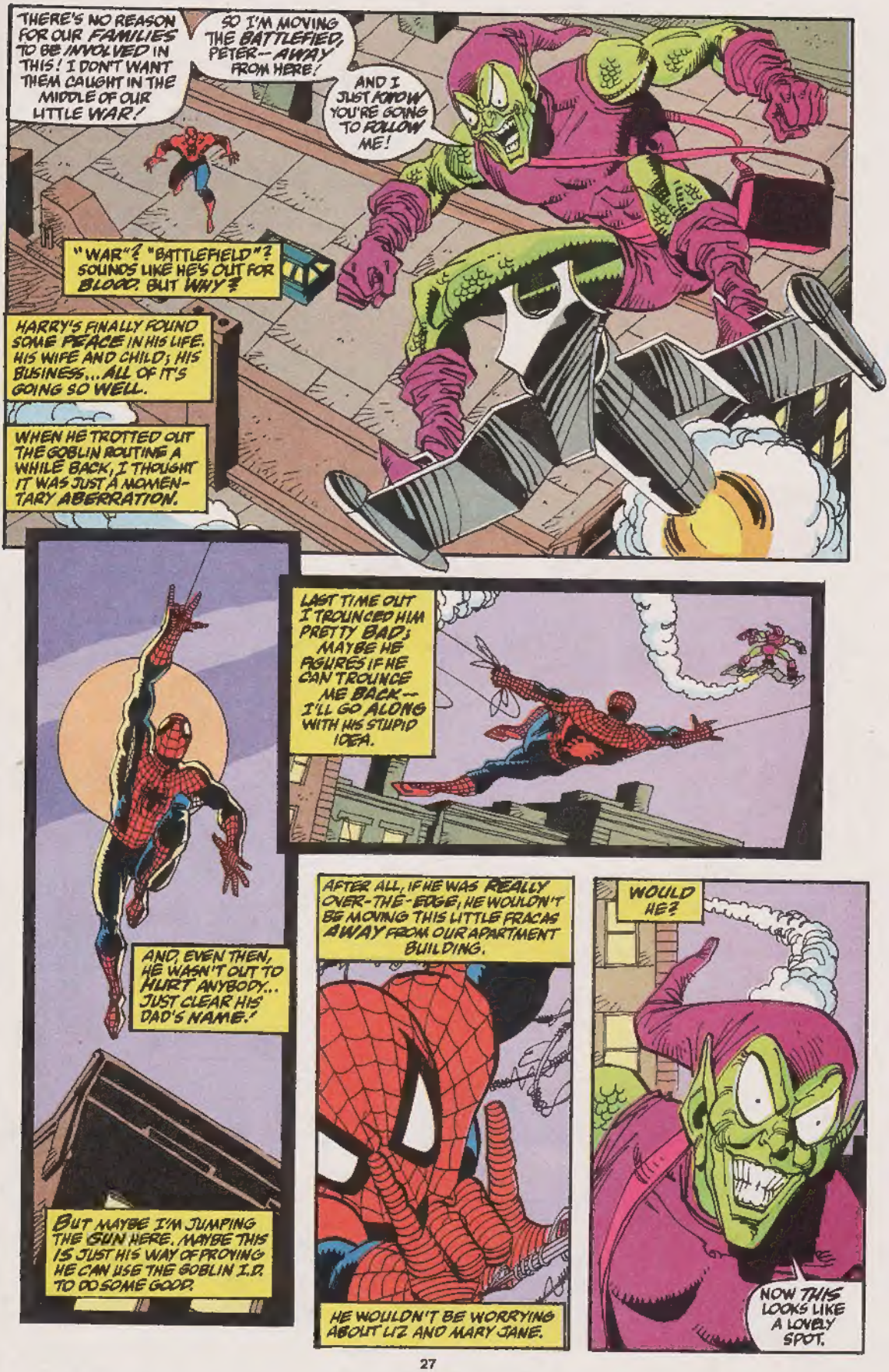
COOLEST SUMMER MOVIES. *Terminator 2: Judgment Day*, and *Bill and Ted's Excellent Adventure 2*. By one of those strange, quirky twists of fate, the kind you usually associate with cheap romance novels, we're doing comic adaptations of both those mega-blockbuster-movies, and they're both on sale this month! What are the odds of that happening—we mention something on the Bullpen Page, and it happens to be on sale that same month. Coincidence, . .or evidence of the supernatural? We can't say for sure, but there are a few oddsmakers in Vegas who are placing bets against that kind of thing ever occurring again.

COOLEST THING TO PUT ON YOUR DOOR: The Mary Jane Watson poster by **Joe Jusko**, which, by some other freak fit of happenstance, goes on sale this month. You've seen the MARVEL ILLUSTRATED SWIMSUIT ISSUE -but here's your chance to see it as it was meant to be seen. It's so big, it takes up an entire door! If Mary Jane were a real person, it would be as big as life! The poster features the vivacious, bikini-clad MJ, relaxing beneath the comforting wash of a waterfall.

What could be cooler than that?

COOLEST CONVENTION EVENT: *Mondo Marvel*, our newest infotainment extravaganza which we've taken on the road to the major comics conventions, is a live talk show hosted by the ultrapopular **Fabian Nicieza**. It features music, famous comic writers reading from their works, audience participational contests, commercial skits for real Marvel comics, and other undignified activities. Catch it if you can!

COOLEST SIGN-OFF: That's it for another month, and we're outta here.

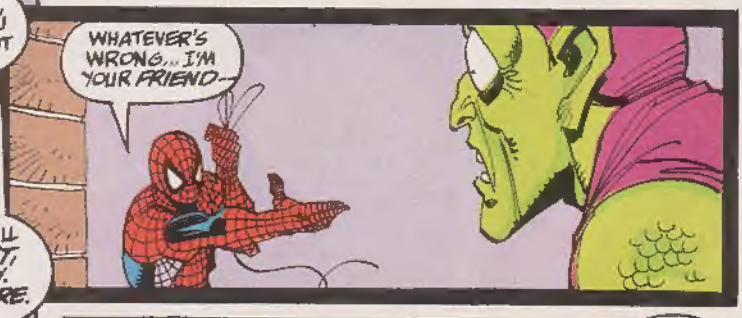

THERE'S NO REASON FOR OUR FAMILIES TO BE INVOLVED IN THIS! I DON'T WANT THEM CAUGHT IN THE MIDDLE OF OUR LITTLE WAR!
SO I'M MOVING THE BATTLEFIED, PETER-- AWAY FROM HERE!
AND I JUST KNOW YOU'RE GOING TO FOLLOW ME!
"WAR"? "BATTLEFIELD"? SOUNDS LIKE HE'S OUT FOR BLOOD. BUT WHY?
HARRY'S FINALLY FOUND SOME PEACE IN HIS LIFE. HIS WIFE AND CHILD; HIS BUSINESS...ALL OF IT'S GOING SO WELL.
WHEN HE TROTTED OUT THE GOBLIN ROUTING A WHILE BACK, I THOUGHT IT WAS JUST A MOMENTARY ABERRATION.
LAST TIME OUT I TROUNCED HIM PRETTY BAD; MAYBE HE FIGURES IF HE CAN TROUNCE ME BACK-- I'LL GO ALONG WITH HIS STUPID IDEA.
AND, EVEN THEN, HE WASN'T OUT TO HURT ANYBODY... JUST CLEAR HIS DAD'S NAME.
BUT MAYBE I'M JUMPING THE GUN HERE. MAYBE THIS IS JUST HIS WAY OF PROVING HE CAN USE THE GOBLIN I.D. TO DO SOME GOOD.
AFTER ALL, IF HE WAS REALLY OVER-THE-EDGE, HE WOULDN'T BE MOVING THIS LITTLE FRACAS AWAY FROM OUR APARTMENT BUILDING.
HE WOULDN'T BE WORRYING ABOUT LIZ AND MARY JANE.
WOULD HE?
NOW THIS LOOKS LIKE A LOVELY SPOT.

BUT WHERE DID OUR LITTLE PETER GO?
COME ON, PARKER-- SHOW YOURSELF!
BUT HIS VOICE... LISTEN TO IT! HE'S SO FILLED WITH ANGER... WITH HATE! HE DOESN'T EVEN SOUND LIKE HIMSELF!

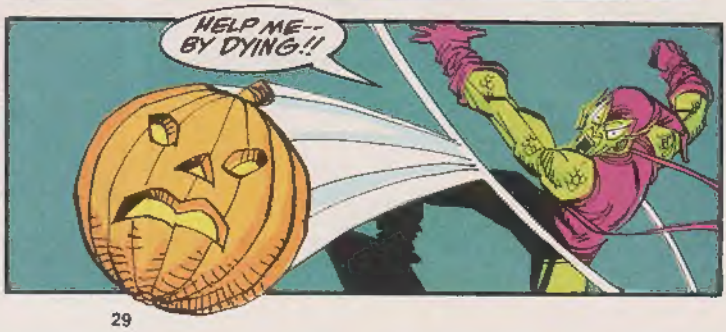
OR ARE YOU AFRAID OF ME?
AFRAID OF THE BIG, BAD GOBLIN, PETER... IS THAT IT?
HE SOUNDS LIKE HIS FATHER!

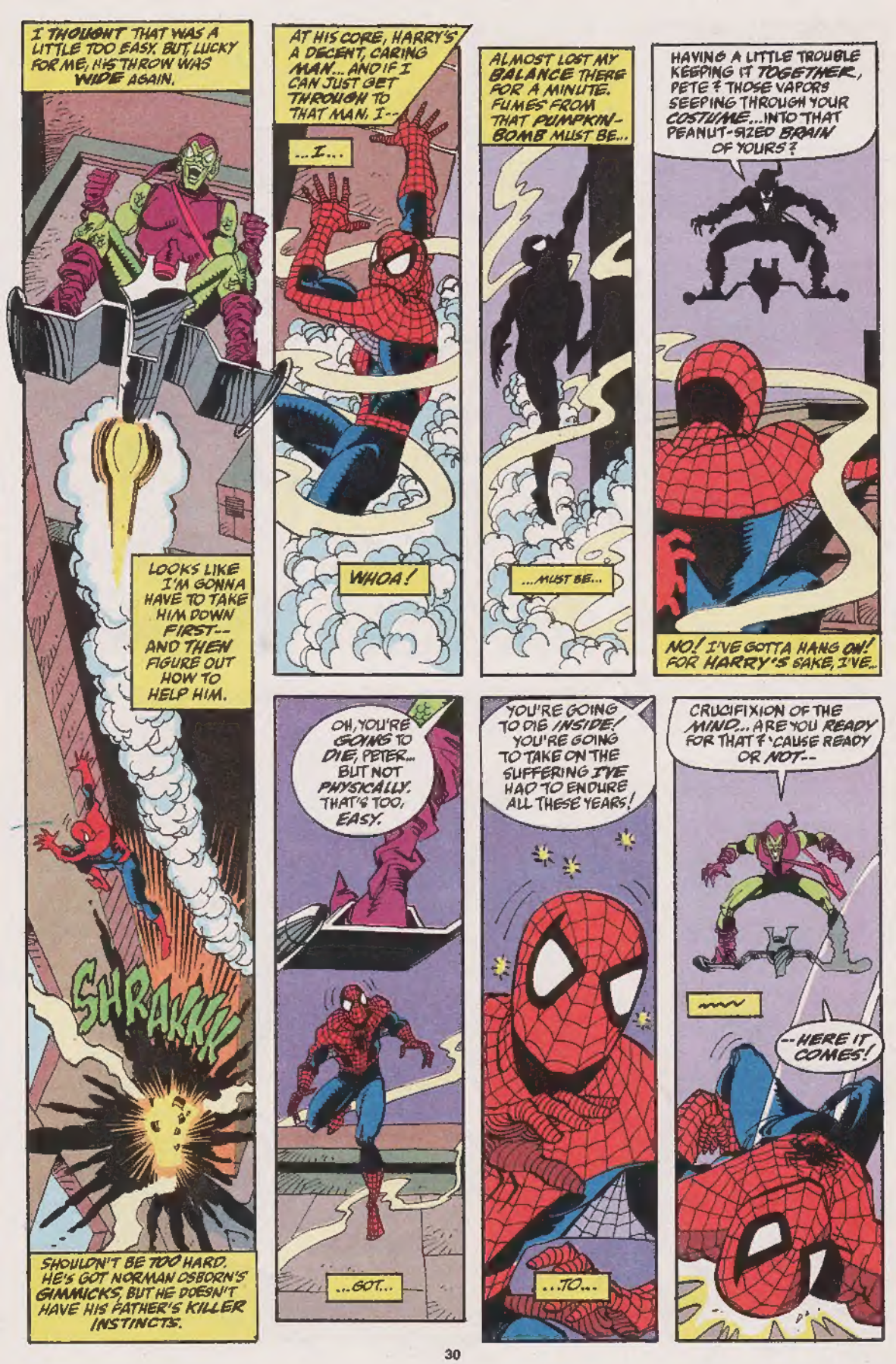
LISTEN TO ME, HARRY: IF YOU REMEMBER WHO I AM... THAT MEANS YOU REMEMBER THE FIRST TIME YOU BECAME THE GOBLIN-- WHEN YOU HAD YOUR BREAKDOWN.
YOU WERE SICK THEN... AND THERE'S A GOOD CHANCE THAT YOU'RE SICK NOW.

I WANT TO HELP YOU, HAR. I DON'T WANT YOU TO GO THROUGH ALL THAT PAIN AGAIN.
OH, PETER... PETER I'M SO CONFUSED! I... I DON'T KNOW WHAT'S HAPPENING TO ME!
IT'S ALL RIGHT, BUDDY. I'M HERE.


WHATEVER'S WRONG... I'M YOUR FRIEND--

-- AND I WON'T LET YOU DOWN.
OH, YES, PETER... HELP ME.


HELP ME-- BY DYING!!


I THOUGHT THAT WAS A LITTLE TOO EASY. BUT, LUCKY FOR ME, HIS THROW WAS WIDE AGAIN.
LOOKS LIKE I'M GONNA HAVE TO TAKE HIM DOWN FIRST-- AND THEN FIGURE OUT HOW TO HELP HIM.
SHRAKK!
SHOULDN'T BE TOO HARD. HE'S GOT NORMAN OSBORN'S GIMMICKS, BUT HE DOESN'T HAVE HIS FATHER'S KILLER INSTINCTS.
AT HIS CORE, HARRY'S A DECENT, CARING MAN... AND IF I CAN JUST GET THROUGH TO THAT MAN, I--
...I...
WHOA!
ALMOST LOST MY BALANCE THERE FOR A MINUTE. FUMES FROM THAT PUMPKIN-BOMB MUST BE...
...MUST BE...
HAVING A LITTLE TROUBLE KEEPING IT TOGETHER, PETE? THOSE VAPORS SEEPING THROUGH YOUR COSTUME...INTO THAT PEANUT-SIZED BRAIN OF YOURS?
NO! I'VE GOTTA HANG ON! FOR HARRY'S SAKE, I'VE...
OH, YOU'RE GOING TO DIE, PETER... BUT NOT PHYSICALLY. THAT'S TOO, EASY.
...GOT...
YOU'RE GOING TO DIE INSIDE! YOU'RE GOING TO TAKE ON THE SUFFERING I'VE HAD TO ENDURE ALL THESE YEARS!
...TO...
CRUCIFIXION OF THE MIND... ARE YOU READY FOR THAT? 'CAUSE READY OR NOT--
--HERE IT COMES!

THIS IS WHERE ALL MY PAIN ENDS-- AND YOURS BEGINS.
JUST YOU AND ME... MY DEAR OLD FRIEND... THE WAY IT ALWAYS HAD TO BE.
NOT THE GREEN GOBLIN AND SPIDER-MAN. THIS ISN'T ABOUT MASKS. I SEE THAT NOW. WE'VE BOTH BEEN HIDING BEHIND MASKS FOR TOO LONG.
NO MORE HIDING.
NO MORE MASKS.
JUST TWO MEN--
--NAMED OSBORN AND PARKER.
"THE CHILD WITHIN" CONTINUES NEXT ISSUE!